(e) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). No information of any gang operating in and around Delhi are evading freight apart from Sales Tax has come to the notice of the Railway.

(c) and (d). During surprise checks on unbooked luggage, conducted in association with the Sales Tax Authorities of Delhi, U.P. and Haryana States during the period July to October, 1996, Railway dues amounting to Rs. 55.56 lakhs were realised and 660 packages weighing about 370 Qtls. were confiscated by the Zonal Railway. Sales Tax Authorities have withheld certain packages of consignment and also stopped delivery of 15 wagons for realisation of their dues from the Traders.

(e) Railways have intensified checks against carriage of unbooked luggage in trains.

Change of Location of HPT in Gujarat

959. SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA :
SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :
SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2473 on August 1, 1996 regarding expansion of TV transmitters in Gujarat and state :

(a) whether a request from the State Government of Gujarat regarding change of location of HPT, Dwarka is pending with the Union Government since long;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c). A new site for locating the High Power TV Transmitter (HPT) at Dwarka in Gujarat has since been taken over. The project is expected to be completed in about 8 years time, after approval by the competent authority, subject to availability of funds infrastructural facilities and inter-se priorities.

[Translation]

Mass Rail Facilities in Jabalpur

960. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Nagrik Manch, Jabalpur has submitted a demand letter for mass rail facilities;

(b) if so, the details of the demands;

(c) whether the Government have rejected their demands;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (1) Introduction of a superfast train between Jabalpur and Delhi to cover the distance between Jabalpur and Delhi within 12 hrs.

(2) Attachment of A.C. first class in Nizamuddin-Jabalpur/Nagpur/Bilaspur Gondwana Express between Jabalpur and Hazrat Nizamuddin.

(c) to (e). Both the demands have been examined but not found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

Rail Link with North-Eastern States

961. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cities of the north eastern States connected with rail;

(b) the number of cities proposed to be connected with rail in future;

(c) whether there is any proposal to connect Jaipur with rail directly with the north-eastern States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Twelve important cities of the North Eastern States which are connected by rail are :

Guwahati, Naugaon, Jorhat, Tinsukhia, Dibrugarh, Tejpur, Mariani, Lumding, Rangia, Silchar Town and Moranhat.

(b) A rail link to Agartala has been taken up. Goalpara and Depa would also get connected by rail once the Jogighopa-Guwahati line gets completed in 1998-99.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Re-Employment in Public Sector Units

962 DR. ASIM BALA :
PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS :
SHRI BALAI CHANDRA RAY :
SHRI MEHBOOB ZAHEDI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry had issued directions to its